

## **BITCOIN SCAM**

**WARRENTON** – The BITCOIN SCAM is back. While this scam has existed for several years, in various forms, it is back in a sexploitation or blackmail context. The Sheriff's Office has received a significant uptick in reports concerning the scam.

This is the "sexploitation" part of the BITCOIN SCAM-the victim receives an email that contains a current or former or even a partial password in the email header. This gains the victim's confidence immediately. The email goes on to state your computer has been hacked and an unknown person(s) has control of your webcam. The email then states the recipient has been recorded visiting pornographic sites.

Then the threat-the email threatens to send the videos and/or other information to the victim's social media contacts unless the victim purchases \$2000.00 in BITCOIN and transfers the funds to the scammer within a time period.

**THIS IS A SCAM!** Do not engage or respond to the email and delete it immediately. Change all of your passwords and never use the same password for multiple accounts. Never Never Never give any personal information including banking information to anyone!

While there are several versions of this sexploitation or blackmail BITCOIN SCAM, this seems to be the latest, most prevalent version.

If you feel you have been a victim of this scam or any other you can report it to the Sheriff's Office at 540-347-3300!